



FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY

12055 Government Center Parkway, Suite 927
Fairfax, VA 22035-1118



For Immediate Release

Judy Pedersen, PIO
E-mail: parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov
Press Inquiries: 703-324-8662

July 6, 2007
PR-073

Volunteers Needed at Lose The Training Wheels Camp

Enjoying the fun and freedom of riding a bicycle is an experience that no child should be denied. With that in mind, the Fairfax County Park Authority is seeking volunteers to assist at a unique camp for children with disabilities that teaches the skills needed to ride a bicycle without training wheels. "Lose the Training Wheels" will be held at the Dulles Expo Center in Chantilly, Virginia from Monday, July 30 through Friday, August 3, 2007.

Using modified bicycles that have rollers instead of training wheels, the course teaches the techniques to overcome three main obstacles to riding a bicycle: impaired balance, limited coordination and fear. The rollers provide greater stability and improved balance and are phased out over time until the child can use regular tires. Volunteers provide encouragement and support while serving as spotters as they run along next to the children.

Volunteers can pick one session or multiple sessions each day, but they are asked to commit to the full week as campers will be more comfortable with familiar spotters. Volunteers must be 15 years or older. Permission from a parent or guardian is required for volunteers under 18. A training program is scheduled on Sunday, July 29 between 6 and 8 p.m. to teach volunteers about the special bicycles and how to provide stability support. Volunteers are also needed to help with administrative duties during the camp.

Along with the satisfaction of assisting children in learning a lifelong leisure skill by helping them build confidence and a sense of independence, volunteers will also receive free passes to be used at any of the Park Authority's nine RECenters and a certificate for use for professional development and school purposes. Lunch and a t-shirt will also be provided.

This program was made possible by the Fairfax County Park Foundation and by generous support from the following corporate partners: Dulles Expo & Conference Center, SAIC, Shenandoah University, Dick's Sporting Goods and Tysons Corner Center.

To volunteer or for more information, please contact Jean Skinner at 703-324-8565, TTY 703-803-3354 or email her at jean.skinner@fairfaxcounty.gov

###

703-324-8700 • TTY: 703-803-3354 • ONLINE: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks • E-MAIL: parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov



Fairfax County is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination in all county programs, services and activities and will provide reasonable accommodations upon request. To request special accommodations, call 703-324-8563 or TTY 703-803-3354. Please allow ten working days in advance of events in order to make the necessary arrangements.